

CLASSIFICATION SECRETSECURITY INT
REPORT NO.COUNTRY AustriaTOPIC Soviet Troops in St. Poelten, Camp Spratzern, Mauer Oehling and Amstetten

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EVALUATION

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 15 August 1953, amphibious motor vehicle [] and amphibious jeep [] both of which driven by soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets, were in front of the garage for amphibious vehicles in the Eugen Kaserne in St. Poelten []. A new long-wire antenna was installed in the Rainer Kaserne. Another long-wire antenna with its two leads conducting to radio truck [] which was parked in the garage had been installed in the Franz Josef Kaserne. On 18 August 1953, a convoy of ten trucks []

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[] all of which driven by soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets, stopped on the Viehofen [] - St. Poelten road. When jeep [] which was driven by a soldier wearing black-bordered black epaulets and came from the direction of St. Poelten, joined the convoy, [] the convoy was piloted to the town. On 19 August 1953, a new telephone line extended from the former St. Poelten District Court via Zagging [] in the direction of Krems []. The line consisted of field wires in the town of St. Poelten, and of bare wires suspended from poles outside the town. A detail of soldiers, who wore red-bordered black epaulets and rode on truck [] which was also driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, made circuit tests by means of a field telephone. Amphibious jeeps [] both driven by soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets, and amphibious motor vehicle [] were in a civil motor vehicle repair shop, from which they subsequently returned to the Eugen Kaserne. In the night of 21/22 August 1953, the telephone line which led from the former District Court Building in St. Poelten in the direction of Krems was dismantled. On 22 August 1953, soldiers wearing overalls assisted in the repair of truck [] in a civil motor vehicle repair shop. The long-wire antenna in the Rainer Kaserne and the additional long-wire antenna in the Franz-Josef Kaserne were still observed.¹

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2. On 15 August 1953, about 60 soldiers did rifle drill at Camp Spratzern []

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3. On 20 August 1953, four SU-76 SF guns, four guns of an unidentified model, 43 motor vehicles and six trucks were observed in the area of the former regional insane hospital in Mauer Oehling []. Soldiers and motor

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vehicles communicating in the installation included one lieutenant colonel, who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; two majors, who wore black-bordered red epaulets; one major, who wore black-bordered black epaulets; eight sidecar motorcycles each carrying three soldiers equipped with submachine guns and four solo motorcycles each carrying two soldiers equipped with submachine guns with all men wearing red-bordered black epaulets; truck [] which was driven by a soldier wearing black-bordered red epaulets; and trucks [] all of which were driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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4. Officers and enlisted men observed at the Soviet hospital in Amstetten on 20 August 1953 included two majors and one woman major of the medical corps, all of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets; one major of the medical corps, who wore black-bordered red epaulets; and soldiers with dressings who wore red-bordered black and/or black-bordered red epaulets.²

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1. [] Comment. The observation of the St. Poelten barracks area did not furnish any new information. From their rotor vehicle [] it is believed that the amphibious motor vehicle and the amphibious jeep in the Eugen Kaserne belong to the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. The new antennas observed in the Painer Kaserne and the Franz Josef Kaserne were presumably set up for maneuvers. The convoy which was observed on the Viehofen-St. Poelten road on 18 August, does not belong to the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div as is inferred from the rotor vehicle [] which cannot be identified. The black-bordered black epaulets are indicative of an engineer or signal unit. Since the new telephone line from the former District Court Building towards Krems which was observed on 18 August was removed in the night of 21/22 August it is fairly definitely believed that the line had been laid either for practice or in connection with an intended exercise. The [] of the truck carrying the soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets and made the circuit tests indicates that the line was constructed by a unit of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. The [] of the two amphibious jeeps and the amphibious motor vehicle observed in the civil motor vehicle repair shop belong to the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. Truck [] belongs to the Central Group Headquarters or to units directly controlled by the same.

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2. [] Comment. The observations made at Camp Spratzern, Mauer Oehling and Amstetten furnish no new information. The [] identified in Mauer Oehling belong to the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.

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